

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Restriction Requirement

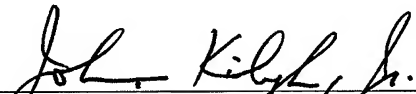
The Office Action sets forth a restriction requirement between the claims of Groups I-X. Furthermore, if the claims of Group X are elected, the Office Action sets forth a species election requirement between the following: (a) chimeric rat, (b) knockout rat, (c) knockin rat, (d) transgenic rat, and (e) knockdown rat.

Applicants' Election

Applicants elect, without traverse, the claims of Group II (claims 8-13) directed to a method for producing a rat ES cell, for further prosecution.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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